

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the instant application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The subject application is the national stage prosecution of PCT International application serial no. PCT/US2005/000955, originally containing claims 1-37. Claims 1-2, 7-11, 20-25, 28-30 and 33-34 are canceled herein without prejudice. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of said canceled claims in a future continuing application. Claims 3-6, 26-27 and 36-37 are presently amended for which support can be found, *inter alia*, throughout the specification. Thus, claims 3-6, 12-19, 26-27, 31-32 and 35-37 are presented herein for consideration on the merits. No new matter has been added.

In the Specification, the section entitled "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" is amended to update the priority of the present application.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the above amendment and begin prosecution on the merits. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be of value, he is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

By Laura M. Ginkel
Laura M. Ginkel, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 51,737
Attorney for Applicant

MERCK & CO., INC.
P.O. Box 2000
Rahway, New Jersey 07065-0907
(732) 594-1932

Date: July 14, 2004